



US Army Corps  
of Engineers ®  
Tulsa District

# TULSA

## DISTRICT RECORD

June 1997  
Vol. 20, No. 6

## Two Tulsa District Employees Named Federal Executive Association Employees of the Year



Lori Hunninghake  
Programs and Project Management Division



Rick West  
Fort Sill Area Office

**A**T THEIR ANNUAL BANQUET HELD THE END OF MAY, TULSA'S  
FEDERAL EXECUTIVE ASSOCIATION NAMED TWO TULSA  
DISTRICT EMPLOYEES AS EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR.

Lori Hunninghake, Programs and Project Management Division, was chosen in the GS-08 and Below, Technical, Professional, Administrative category, while Rick West of the Fort Sill Area Office got the nod in the Supervisory/Managerial category.

Other district employees recognized by the district by their nominations were Connie Harris, HTRW Resident Office; Steve Harmon, PPMD; and Jacque Lattie, AE Contracts and Documents Section.

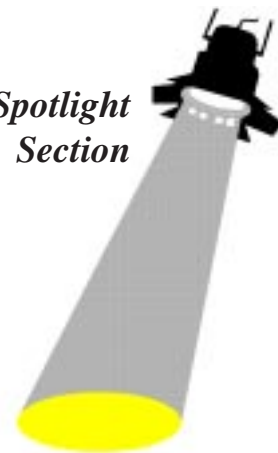
*Congratulations to the nominees and the winners!!*

## Colonel's Corner



Col. Timothy Sanford  
District Engineer

## Spotlight Section



At the Corps of Engineers Contracting Conference on May 28, Tulsa District's division received the fiscal year 1996-1997 Acquisition Management Survey Award for Leadership and Management. This award – which was the first of its type ever given – resulted from the outstanding comments given the district by the Acquisition Management Survey Team which inspected the district's contracting functions. The award specifically cited the communication and teamwork excellence evident throughout the office. Congratulations to **Rick Hedrick** and his team!

Congratulations also to **Dennis Thomas** who recently passed the master-level Certified Hazardous Materials Manager exam. This is one of the most prestigious registrations that an environmental professional can obtain.

On May 6, Park Ranger **Mike Lowry**, Council Grove Lake Office, played an integral role in finding and perhaps saving the life of a Kansas woman. Mike had conducted search and rescue training for local agencies earlier. This training, combined with Mike's good judgment and initiative during a very stressful search operation, resulted in successfully finding the woman involved in a boating accident. Mike's performance was a credit to not only him, but the entire Corps of Engineers. Well done, Mike!!

I signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Chief Terry Whitetree of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe on Friday, May 30. We will begin immediately to provide engineering support to the Seneca-Cayuga for design and construction of a water distribution system. I want to commend **John Sparlin and John Wagner** for their superb marketing efforts which developed this new customer.

Congratulations to **Rick West**, Fort Sill resident engineer, and **Lori Hunninghake**, PPMD, for their selection by the Tulsa Federal Executive Association as Federal Employees of the Year. This is a great recognition of their talents and dedication.

Congratulations to all who competed in and supported Corporate Challenge 1997! We won **FIRST PLACE** in Division Six!!! I want to especially thank **Loretta Turner and Lisa Samilton** for their dedication and extraordinary efforts to

# Happy Birthday!

**H**APPY BIRTHDAY!! THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS CELEBRATES ITS 222ND BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH. Throughout those 222 years, the Corps has served the nation superbly – repeatedly meeting demanding challenges that looked impossible to many. The Tulsa District has been a part of that legacy . . . a canal up the Arkansas River to Catoosa??? We owe the history and the reputation we enjoy today to our predecessors. Today we are the keepers of the Corps legacy for those who will succeed us. This is a significant responsibility, but one we are meeting. I am confident that we will not just sustain, we will enhance the Corps reputation for meeting the demanding challenges of the Army and the Nation.

We will recognize many of our outstanding employees and the accomplishments of individuals and teams across the district as part of our Corps Day celebration. You each should be proud of what you have done as a district since last Corps Day. The vast majority of our civil, military, Corps and other customers are delighted with the service you are giving them. We are consistently looking for the best way to meet the customer's needs – tapping resources across the Corps and building the Corps Team.

We still have many areas of our business processes which need work, and I know we are committed to making improvements. It is your performance and commitment to never be satisfied that makes me confident that the Corps reputation is in good hands. Stay focused on the future – we are responsible for it!

See Column, page 4

**Tulsa District Record: Contributions of articles, graphics and photographs are encouraged. All manuscripts are subject to editing and rewriting.**

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# Word's the Word in Customer Care



**Clinton Word**  
Customer Care Employee  
Second Quarter, FY97

**T**HE WORD'S OUT. Clinton Word is the Customer Care Employee of the Quarter for the second quarter, FY97. Word is a supervisory hydraulic engineer and chief of the Water Control Section in Hydrology and Hydraulics Branch, Operations Division.

Word was nominated by Don Sanders, the chief of H&H. Sanders states, "For many years, the Tulsa District has taken for granted the customer care given by Clinton Word. Clinton's customers have grown comfortable in the confidence that he will always provide the best quality work in minimum time."

Word was specifically noted for a public presentation on reservoir flood control operations made to the constituents of U.S. Congressman Asa Hutchinson. "As a result, many of our citizens who live along the flood-prone Arkansas River now better understand the tough decisions that must be made by our Reservoir Control Center regarding flood control in Oklahoma and Arkansas," Sanders stated in the nomination.

Where do we (literally) stand?

## GPS and the Corps



**Larry Prestien**

**Dan Baumann makes adjustments to the Differential Global Positioning System site equipment.**

**By Larry Prestien and Dan Baumann  
Structural Maintenance and Repair Section, Physical Support Branch  
Robert S. Kerr Project Office**

**T**HE GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM IS A CONSTELLATION OF 25 NAVSTAR SATELLITES IN HIGH ORBIT AROUND THE EARTH OPERATED AND MAINTAINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. They orbit the earth every 12 hours. Using the principles of triangulation, these satellites can pinpoint where you are on the surface of the earth. A GPS receiver is necessary to pick up the signals from the satellites, just as you need a radio to pick up the signal from an AM or FM broadcast.

Because the NAVSTAR Global Positioning System is first and foremost a military tool, the government purposely degrades the accuracy of the signal from the satellites, resulting in position errors of 30-100 meters. Fortunately, there are ways to improve this accuracy and Differential GPS, or DGPS, is one of those ways. DGPS uses a base station which continuously receives GPS positions over a known location. The base station then calculates the errors from the satellite information and corrects the position data. These corrections are broadcast back to the GPS users where position accuracy is improved to five meters or less, depending on the GPS receiver.

So, what does this have to do with the Corps of Engineers? In 1994, the Corps and the U.S. Coast Guard entered into a Memorandum of Agreement for the establishment of DGPS services along the inland waterways of the United States. The primary purpose was to provide a nationwide, all-weather, real-time radio navigation service in support of commercial and recreational maritime interests.

Physical Support Branch uses the DGPS service for hydrographic surveying of the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System. The DGPS service has unlimited potential for supporting other non-marine Corps activities such as master planning, engineering, mapping, operations and various GIS activities where meter-level accuracy is sufficient.

At Robert S. Kerr Project in July 1995, the Corps began construction of a DGPS reference station known as the Sallisaw site. This was a very challenging project as very little guidance and information was received from the DGPS "experts" during construction, and our knowledge of GPS was minimal. Construction of the site was accomplished through the combined efforts of Physical Support Branch and Robert S. Kerr personnel.

Dan Baumann, civil engineer in Physical Support Branch, coordinated the construction of the site. The site became fully operational in June 1996 with 24-hour monitoring of the site by the Coast Guard. DGPS broadcast status can be obtained from the internet at [www.navcen.uscg.mil/dgps/dgpssts.html](http://www.navcen.uscg.mil/dgps/dgpssts.html).

The Sallisaw DGPS reference station provides correction information to an area approximately 200 miles in diameter, and totally serves the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System. The Sallisaw DGPS site consists of two 160-foot broadcast towers supporting a high efficiency radio-beacon antenna, a 1000-watt automatic antenna tuning unit, a 600-foot diameter ground plane, two complete reference stations and an equipment building housing a 1000-watt transmitter and correction equipment.



# ... Column

from page 2

coordinate the 1997 Team. They were superb!! The trophy, a big silver cup, is in the lobby near the elevators. It's a traveling trophy, so to keep it we need to repeat as champions next year!

And speaking of Corporate Challenge, I want to call your attention to the district's home page on the Internet. I suggest you visit the site, and check out the color photos in the May issue of the *Tulsa District Record*.

By the time you read this, Corps Day may be history, but, as I am writing it, lots of preparations are taking place. I want to commend **John Clark** of H&H Branch for his leadership role in this year's celebration. He has quietly gone about assuring a good time for all of us.

*Essays!!!*

Questions for the  
Human Resources  
Office in Fort Worth?

1-800-453-8907



## Recycling Results

### April 1997 Savings

KWHs of energy				
23,062				
Gallons of water				39,375
Cubic yards of landfill				18.56
Pounds of air pollution				337.50
Month	Trees Saved	Tons of Paper	Amount Made	
Jan.	160	9.41	187.25	
Feb.	130	7.66	139.25	
March	139	8.15	114.20	
April	96	5.63	89.88	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>30.85</b>	<b>530.58</b>	



Visit Tulsa District  
on the Internet!

<http://www.swt.usace.army.mil>

## Water Safety Tips

- **NEVER** swim alone or dive in an unfamiliar area. Exhaustion, cramps or sudden illness can overcome the best of swimmers.
- **NEVER** swim when overheated.
- **ALWAYS** wear your life jacket, particularly in a small boat or in cold water.
- **ALWAYS** stay alert for other boats, swimmers, fishermen, water skiers and partly submerged objects.
- **DRINKING** and water activities don't mix
- **KNOW** about cold water survival. Hypothermia kills!
- **CHECK** forecasts, and be aware of changing weather conditions.
- **DON'T** overload your craft; distribute weight evenly.
- **DON'T** stand up or move suddenly, especially in a small boat.
- **WATCH** your wake, and be courteous to others on the water.
- **OBEY** all buoy markers; they are for your safety.
- **TELL** someone where you are going and when you plan to return.

## From the Mail



**To Bruce Padgham, Marion Project Office, from R. J. Meierhoff, Morris County sheriff:**

As you are no doubt aware, on May 16, 1997, our department, along with several other local agencies, conducted a search and rescue operation in reference to a boating accident at the Council Grove Reservoir. As a result of the professionalism and cooperation of the agencies and individuals involved, a life was saved.

I am writing this letter to personally call to your attention the exemplary conduct displayed by Ranger Mike Lowry during the rescue. During the rescue, Ranger Lowry showed good judgment and initiative during an extremely stressful

situation. Had Ranger Lowry not initiated and conducted search and rescue training programs for local agencies, the outcome of this operation may have been far worse. He played a vital role in saving a life, and exemplified the highest ideals of public service. Ranger Lowry is a credit to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

**To David Manning and Michael Ware, Regulatory Branch, Operations Division, from Urma Goodrich, career coordinator, Monroe Middle School:**

Thank you for serving as a consultant for our Career Day 1997. Your willingness to share your time and knowledge regarding your "world of work" has been invaluable to our students.

The overall student and staff evaluation of the fair was: "Excellent!" Again, we do appreciate you and people like you who contribute so much to our efforts in career education.

## Personnel Notes

### April Goodbye

Jana Atchison, EC, Design Branch

### Promotions

Robert Burnett, OD, R. S. Kerr Project Office  
Glenda Gallaway, CT, Industrial Relations Br.  
Ronald Jordan, OD, Texoma Project Office  
Carol McConnell, PP, Environmental Branch  
Shawneen O'Neill, PL, Basin Planning Branch  
Laura Redemann, PP, Environmental Branch  
Brenda Snyder, EC, Geotechnical Branch  
Karen VanLeeuwen, PP, Environmental Br.  
Celestine VanWinkle, OD, R. S. Kerr Proj. Of.  
Jeffrey Waldie, EC, Design Branch  
Michael Ware, OD, Regulatory Branch  
Charles Wilson, PL, Basin Planning Branch

### Hello

Matthew Bell, OD, Oologah Project Office  
John Cottrill, IM, Support Services Branch  
Dale Dishman, OD, Oologah Project Office  
Joel Gaff, OD, Fall Ribert Project Office  
Darrell Hendrix, OD, Tenkiller Project Office  
Terry Mathis, OD, R. S. Kerr Project Office  
Troy Potteiger, OD, Fall Riber Project Office  
Darrell Custer, EC, Geotechnical Branch

# Tulsa Family

## Family additions

**Reid Michael Buchanan, born May 8** – son of Mike and Cindy Buchanan, Texoma Project Office park rangers.

**Randi Jo Vincent, born May 10** – daughter of Dewayne and Glenda Vincent and sister of Jake. Glenda is a park ranger at Oologah Project Office.

**Ryan Patrick VanLeeuwen, born May 13** – son of Karen and John VanLeeuwen and grandson of Marie Buster. Karen is a program analyst in Programs and Project Management Division; John is a structural engineer in Civil Design Section, Engineering and Construction Division; and Marie is a budget assistant in Hydrology and Hydraulics Branch, Operations Division.

**Paige Elizabeth Russell, born May 16** – daughter of Carolyn and Doug Russell. Carolyn is a project manager in PPMD and Doug is a cartographer in Geotechnical Branch, Engineering and Construction Division.



## Congratulations

Donna Coffey, support service specialist, Pine Creek Lake Office, has earned a bachelor of science degree in business management. Coffey graduated magna cum laude from Southeastern Oklahoma State University on May 9.

## Condolences

To Loretta Turner, Environmental Design Section, Engineering and Construction Division, on the death of her grandfather, E. D. Burrus.

To the family and friends of Fred Walden, retired General Services Administration custodian, who passed away April 24. Walden, 49 years old, retired due to Huntington's disease. His work area was the third floor of the federal building on Boulder Street in Tulsa.

To David Mosley on the April 27 death of his mother, Minnie Mosley. David is the chief of the Mail and Messenger Section, Support Services Branch, Information Management Office.

To Don Warnken, retiree, on the death of his brother, Merle.

To Cathey Williams, Operations Division, on the May 3 death of her sister, Carol.

To Ron Ward, maintenance worker at Keystone Project Office, on the death of his mother, Ozelma Ward.

To Betty Roeder, Records Management, on the June 2 death of her mother, Hazel Batchelor.

# Retiree Responses

**Editor's note:** We asked retirees to share news of their lives now or memories of their time in the district. Here are some of their responses.

As a long-time retired person, I find only occasionally a name or two, but was happy to read about Evelyn Johnson, now in Yukon, Okla., one of my dearest friends.

Send me a note, Evelyn. I'll write back.

**Helen Geary, Tulsa (1976 address still the same)**

**Note to Mrs. Johnson:** Call Mary Beth Hudson at 918/669-7366 if you need Mrs. Geary's address.

I enjoy hearing from other retirees and reading the *Tulsa District Record*. Celebrated my 89th birthday last month with daughter, Cathy, in Olathe, Kan. Have been in hospital a total of four weeks in the first quarter this year.

Heard from Lorena Walker in Muskogee. She reported the death of Marie Pickett.

Would like to hear from other retirees of my vintage. Bea and I live at Tulsa (Broken Arrow phone 355-4700).

**Enoch J. Jordan**  
16310 E. 41st  
Tulsa, OK 74134

## Family Member to See Sea World Up Close

Josh Engelbert, 16-year-old sophomore at Copan High School will soon be headed to Sea World in San Antonio for a week to work with the aquatic life there. Engelbert won the opportunity to travel and spend a week at the Sea World Camp through a contest sponsored by channel 8 television in Tulsa and open to its entire viewing area.

To win the contest, Engelbert, who plans to eventually major in zoology, wrote a 300-word essay on why he should be chosen.

Engelbert is the son of Gwen Engelbert, support services specialist, Copan Lake Office. He is very active in the Copan Baptist Church, and was recently inducted into the National Honor Society.



**Josh Engelbert**



June 1-30	Savings Bond Campaign
June 13	Corps Day
Aug. 9-10	Drag Boat Race, Pryor Creek, Fort Gibson Lake
Sept. 11	Retiree Breakfast
Sept. 12	Day of Caring
Sept. 27	Second Annual National Hunting and Fishing Day at Tenkiller Lake
Oct. 10	Headquarters Building Autumn Decorations
Oct. 16	End-of-Year Closeout Picnic

## Asked Around\*

1. What does the Corps of Engineers do?
2. What does your relative do at work?
3. Does he/she like that job? How do you know?
4. What job do you want to have when you are an adult? Why?

\*of several young family members who visited the Tulsa Office on Take Your Son/Daughter to Work Day.

*Nikki Graham, 11-year-old granddaughter of Janet Graham, editorial assistant, Support Services Branch, Information Management Office:*

1. They build lakes. They fix up buildings and build railroads and stuff.
2. She is a secretary. She like types up bills and stuff, jobs, to give to people.
3. Yea. She like always talks about how she enjoys working there. She likes the people.
4. I'd like to be a teacher because I like to help out people, and I like to teach people stuff.

*Michael David Gardner, 12-year-old son of Rick Gardner, chief of Planning and Control Branch, Real Estate Division:*

1. They make rivers and lakes, and build. They do construction like on the White House. They build, and they construct, and they help preserve places.
2. He works on the computer and gets the files, and he's the boss of some people. He works to make sure everything is okay with the Corps of Engineers.
3. Yes. Because he likes the people that are at his job. Sometimes he comes home, and says he likes his job and he had a good day.
4. Well, I'm going to leave that to decide when I'm older.

*Brittany Conley, 10-year-old granddaughter of Shirley Rolison, program analyst, Civil Works Branch, Programs and Project Management Division:*

1. They build dams and railroads. They reconstruct. They build buildings, and deal with soil.
2. She works with computers. It says civil war or something like that.
3. Uh huh, 'cause when I call her on the phone, I ask her, "How do you like your job?" She says, "Fine."
4. A doctor. Because I have experience to be a doctor. I can help my family out when I become a doctor.

*Krystal Carr, 10-year-old daughter of Nikki Carr, accountant, Finance and Accounting Branch, Resource Management Office:*

1. They clean out the polluted water. They build dams. They help reconstruct places, and they go places and sell land.
2. She is an accountant.
3. Yes. Because she goes around saying it. She says to me that she likes it because she can talk a lot and she has a real nice phone. I'd like it, too, if I had a nice phone like hers.
4. I want to be a school nurse because I like helping people a lot, and I always thought it would be cool to be a nurse because you don't have any kind of dress code.

*Arica Miles, 9-year-old daughter of Chuck Miles, civil engineer, Operations Division:*

1. Work on gates. They work on dams.
2. He mostly works on gates, I guess.
3. I think so 'cause he doesn't want to quit.
4. Probably an office worker at Head, Johnson and Kachigian where my mom works.

*Matt Johanning, 11-year-old son of Margaret Johanning, a study team leader in Planning Division:*

1. They go places.
2. She goes on bus trips, and helps to plan the things they're going to help with.
3. I think so. She's always smiling.
4. I don't know.

*Laurinda Navesky, 13-year-old daughter of Pete Navesky, chief of Readiness and Security Branch, Operations Division:*

1. Build levees and dams.
2. I have no idea.
3. Yes. He doesn't complain.
4. Paleontologist. I love dinosaurs, and I'm an outside person.

*Jamie Randolph, 10 1/2-year-old daughter of Jim and Brenda Randolph. Jim is a biologist in the Environmental Analysis Support Branch, Planning Division, and Brenda is chief of Management and Disposal Branch, Real Estate Division:*



Angie Short

Left to right, front row, Nicci Alworden, Arica Miles and Matt Johanning. Top row, Larry Thomas Jr., Valerie Bratcher and Nikki Graham.





Angie Short

Left to right, Michael David Gardner, Brittany Conley and Krystal Carr.

1. Help support lakes and rivers. They help clean them up, and build dams for them. 2. My dad, I think he just types reports and stuff for the people to follow. He goes out in the field. My mom, she works to help go to meetings to decide where they're going to go to the next meeting, field trip. She's always going places. 3. Yes. Because they have fun, and it's educating. 4. I want to work at the Corps of Engineers where my mom used to work. Because I think when you learn about lakes and stuff and how to take care of them, our world will become a better place.

*Kayla Crenshaw, 9 1/2-year-old daughter of Nancy Crenshaw, a realty specialist in Real Estate Division:*

1. (Kayla and Jamie Randolph were interviewed together, so Kayla bowed to Jamie's wisdom on this answer.) 2. Stops the houses from going into the lake at Eufaula. 3. Yea! 4. Teacher, to help people learn.

*Larry Thomas Jr., 13-year-old son of Joyce Thomas, secretary, Logistics Management Office:*

1. Help the USA for any situation. 2. She's a secretary for Tim Hunt, and she does the payroll, and basically does whatever she's supposed to do as a secretary. 3. Pretty much, yes. 'Cause she's been here for 25 years. If she didn't like it, she wouldn't be staying for 25 years. 4. My first goal is to be an NBA star but if I don't accomplish that, I would like to be an engineer. It pays good money, and it's something I like. I like math. I can fix stuff very quickly. Like stereo problems or something, I can go through and fix them very quickly.

*Nicci Alworden, 9- (well, actually, she turned 9 1/2 on Feb. 6, and will be 10 on Aug. 6) -year-old daughter of Patty Alworden, chief of Disbursing Section, Resource Management Office. Nicci is also the granddaughter of Shirley Voith, RMO; however, her answers refer to her mother:*

1. I am not for sure. 2. She does the checks. The person that works with her does the same thing, and they run up for mail and all that other good junk. 3. Yes. There's one thing she doesn't like about it. We may have to move. She might work at

Heyburn or she might work in Kansas. Mom doesn't want to move to Tennessee, and neither do I! 4. Lawyer. Because I like to fight, and I always disagree with my daddy.

*Valerie Bratcher, 13-year-old daughter of Randy Bratcher, contract specialist, Contracting Division:*

1. They clean up toxic and hazardous waste, and they build lakes and dams. 2. Works in Contracting Division, something to do with bids. He doesn't talk about it. 3. I guess. He doesn't say; he just comes home, and goes outside to work on his building. I think he does, though. 4. I want to be an obstetrician. I like babies. I've always wanted to do that.

*Tamara Griffin, 15-year-old daughter of Dorothy Griffin, a program analyst in Programs and Project Management Division:*

1. I don't know. 2. Works with computers. 3. Yes. She don't complain. 4. Doctor. They make a lot of money.

*Sarah Mahaffey, 11-year-old niece of Barbara Cravens, public affairs specialist, Public Affairs Office:*

1. Get some yucky stuff out of waters. 2. She writes reports for colonel, and clips stuff out of newspapers. 3. Good question. I guess; she never talks about it. 4. A writer. I never really thought about why. Probably because I have a lot of relatives who have degrees in English and write a lot of stuff.

*Andrea Navesky, 15-year-old daughter of Pete Navesky, chief of Readiness and Security Branch, Operations Division:*

1. Don't know. 2. Don't know. 3. Yes. He never complains. 4. Marine biologist or oceanographer. I like the sea, and I don't like it when it's being polluted. I would like to help it be less polluted than before.



Angie Short

Left to right, front row, Jamie Randolph, Kayla Crenshaw, Sarah Mahaffey. Top row, Andrea Navesky, Laurinda Navesky and Tamara Griffin.

*Our Vision: Be the Corps standard in customer care and professionalism.*



Lawanna Penny works on a drawing of cartoon characters.

Penny came aboard the Corps team in 1991 while still a senior at Tulsa's Central High School. After graduation in 1992, she attended Tulsa Technology Center, taking business technology. Later she attended Tulsa Junior College, and majored in accounting. After completing two semesters, she switched fields, and is now pursuing a degree in office administration and taking some art classes. Penny says it may take awhile but she has a positive attitude, and she will succeed.

Penny says she inherited her love for drawing, and that it just comes naturally. She has completed drawings for family, friends, church and various organizations in addition to the Tulsa District. This artist at heart has a special place in her heart for the people of the Tulsa District, and plans to continue her career with the Corps.



Scrappy as drawn by Lawanna Penny.

## An Artist at Heart

Joyce Thomas  
Logistics Management Office

FROM THE FIRST STROKE OF HER BRUSH, Lawanna Penny was an artist at heart. Penny, an office automation clerk in Tulsa Area Office, has a special talent for drawing and painting cartoon characters and people.

That talent has been evident for a long time but has recently come to the forefront as her work has placed first in the district's pollution prevention poster contest and third in the banner contest open to all teams entered in the Corporate Challenge. Another of her designs came in second in the competition to find a Tulsa District Corporate Challenge t-shirt logo.



Angelia Asberry, left, and Lawanna Penny, hold the prize-winning banner done by Penny for Tulsa District's prize-winning Corporate Challenge team.